

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANA 02758 080615Z
ACTION NEA-11

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FM AMEMBASSY SANA
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FOR NEA/ARP AND DEPTASST SEC CRAWFORD

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: SEDU, YE
SUBJECT: EDUCATIONAL GRANT FOR AL-IRYANI

1. ABDAL KARIM AL-IRYANI IS MAKING PLANS TO LEAVE SANA IN ABOUT TEN DAYS, HAVING BEEN DROPPED FROM NEW GOVERNMENT. HE HAS OFFER TO JOINT KUWAIT FUND AND WANTS TO TAKE UP OFFER IMMEDIATELY. HOWEVER, HIS STRONGEST DESIRE IS TO SPEND ACADEMIC YEAR AT HARVARD STARTING IN FALL. KUWAIT FUND WILL GIVE HIM LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR THIS PURPOSE, WITHOUT PAYING SALARY, HOWEVER. HE EARLIER HAD OFFER FROM ARAB FUND FOR \$25,000 TO SPEND YEAR AT HARVARD BUT FOR REASONS INTERNAL TO ARAB FUND, ACCORDING TO IRYANI THIS OFFER IS NO LONGER POSSIBLE, LIKE EARLIER JOB OFFER AT ARAB FUND.

2. THERE IS NO ONE WHO MORE DESERVES OUR HELP AT TIME OF REBUFF. IRYANI IS BRILLIANT AND ACCOMPLISHED PUBLIC SERVANT OF YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC AND FAST FRIEND OF UNITED STATES. HE WANTS OPPORTUNITY TO READ AND REFLECT AFTER DECADE OF HARD WORK IN YAR DEVELOPING PLANNING MECHANISM AND SURVIVING NUMEROUS CHANGES OF GOVERNMENT. IT IS CERTAINTY THAT HE WILL EVENTUALLY RETURN TO YEMEN AND
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YEAR OF TRAINING IN ECONOMICS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS, PLUS FUND EXPERIENCE IN KUWAIT, WILL STAND HIM IN VERY GOOD STEAD.

3. SEPTTEL WILL ADDRESS FULBRIGHT FUNDING FOR IRYANI. HE WANTS, HOWEVER, NOT LIVE AS STUDENT BUT TO HAVE HIS WIFE AND FOUR

CHILDREN JOIN HIM TO ENJOY SOME OF BENEFITS OF AMERICAN LIFE. THIS MEANS STIPEND MUCH GREATER THAN FULBRIGHT NORMALLY PAYS, APPROXIMATELY ON LEVEL OF THAT PREVIOUSLY OFFERED BY ARAB FUND. BOTTOM LINE IS TUITION PLUS \$25,000.

4. IRYANI ARRANGED HIS OWN FUNDING IN THE PAST BUT HAS ASKED US IF WE WOULD HELP NOW, GIVEN HIS NEED TO WIND UP AFFAIRS HERE AND TRANSFER HIMSELF AND FAMILY TO KUWAIT. WE WOULD DO OURSELVES MUCH GOOD, OF COURSE, IF WE COULD HELP. AS I KNOW OF NO FUNDING SOURCES IN US OR IN USG, QUESTIONS ARISE WHETHER AMBASSADOR DICKMAN COULD APPROACH FRIENDS OF YEMEN IN ABU DHABI FOR THIS SUM. IRYANI, OF COURSE, AT THIS POINT WOULDN'T TOUCH SAUDI MONEY WITH TEN FOOT POLE. ALTERNATIVE TO APPROACH BY AMBASSADOR DICKMAN, AND FIRST STEP IN ANY CASE, FOR FOR DESK TO CONTACT A. J. MEYER AT HARVARD TO EXPLAIN SITUATION. MEYER CAN PROBABLY HELP AND IN ANY CASE WILL CERTAINLY WANT TO TRY. REQUEST DESK ALSO INFORM SCOTES. RANSOM

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